Graduate Student Senate

Meeting of the Whole

April 12th, 2021

19 Senators in attendance

Executive Council Attendees: Avery Rasmussen, Aayudh Das, Jaspreet Nagi, Michael Hoaglund and Rosie Chapina

Attendance was taken via online participation.

Senator attendees and clubs that had a representative present can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this document.

Minutes were recorded by Michael Hoaglund.

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Aayudh Das at 4:30pm.

Minutes from the last Senate Meeting on March 15th, 2021, were approved unanimously and will be released on GSS website.

Executive Board Updates:

GSS Election Updates – Aayudh Das

• Formal vote from April 19th-21st
• Results by 28th April
• Write in campaign must consist of at least 10% of the ballots cast
• If you have questions, feel free reach out-
President Updates: Avery Rasmussen
- Updates re: stipends, housing & fees
- Reorganization working group updates
  - Campus-wide Reorganization Brainstorming Session on Thursday, April 15th from 12:00 to 2:00pm
- “Fun” committee representative opportunity
- Food Insecurity initiative updates
- Upcoming Events:
  - Graduate Student Food, Financial & Mental Health Resource Information Session on Tuesday April 13th at 7:00pm
  - Food Pop-Up April 15th from 1:00-4:00pm
  - Bias Response Team Graduate Community Gathering on Wednesday, April 14th from 12:30-1:30pm
  - Bias Step Up Session on Tuesday, April 27th from 10:00am-12:00pm

GSS Career Services Update: Mike Hoaglund
- Tomorrow @ 12:30pm and Thursday @ 12:30pm
- Sign up via Handshake
- Please reach out with any questions: mhoaglun@uvm.edu
New Business:
Resolution: To Call Upon the University of Vermont to Combat the Erasure of Queer and Trans Students
- Max Cordes Galbraith presented the resolution to Senate

Motion to move Resolution to Emergency Business approved.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion approved (28 yes vs. 0 no).

Discussion with Speaker:
Kerry Castano,

Discussion of Amorous Relationships Policy
- Opened discussion with Graduate Students their perspective on this policy
- Policy prohibits faculty/staff from having relationships with students if they have current and direct professional responsibilities over that student
- Proposed changes include prohibiting employees from engaging in an amorous relationship with:
  - with a graduate student in the same department and/or graduate program
  - with a graduate student if the employee has influence or authority over other academic experiences/requirements of the graduate student
- Also prohibits amorous relationships between graduate students and undergraduate for whom they have “educational responsibility”

Q & A with Students
- Graduate Students expressed concern about current relationships and making sure they are grandfathered in with regards to this policy
- Graduate Students noted how the language needs further clarification on graduate student vs. employee standing as about 8% of graduate students are also employees
- A senator also noted how this policy should not interfere with students that are authentically in love and there should be language included in this policy to prevent that

Meeting was adjourned at 5:31pm.
# Appendix 1 – Senator Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andrew Nadeau</td>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>George Love</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Patrick Payne</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Marcus Weinman</td>
<td>Cellular, Molecular, &amp; Biomedical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Irfan Tahir</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jenan Husain</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Max Cordes Galbraith</td>
<td>Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ekraj Dahal</td>
<td>Materials Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mohamad Rabieh Khalife Khalife</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Baxter Worthing</td>
<td>Plant Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Liana Redmond</td>
<td>Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Montana Lara</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Jayita Barua</td>
<td>Cellular, Molecular, &amp; Biomedical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Berke Tinaz</td>
<td>Plant Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Colin Giles</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Collin Mitchell</td>
<td>Accountancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Alison Hall</td>
<td>Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Abigail Rec</td>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Maaz Sattar</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering</td>
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</tbody>
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*Clubs with a representative present:* CMC, SACNAS, Women in STEM, RGSA, IRSA